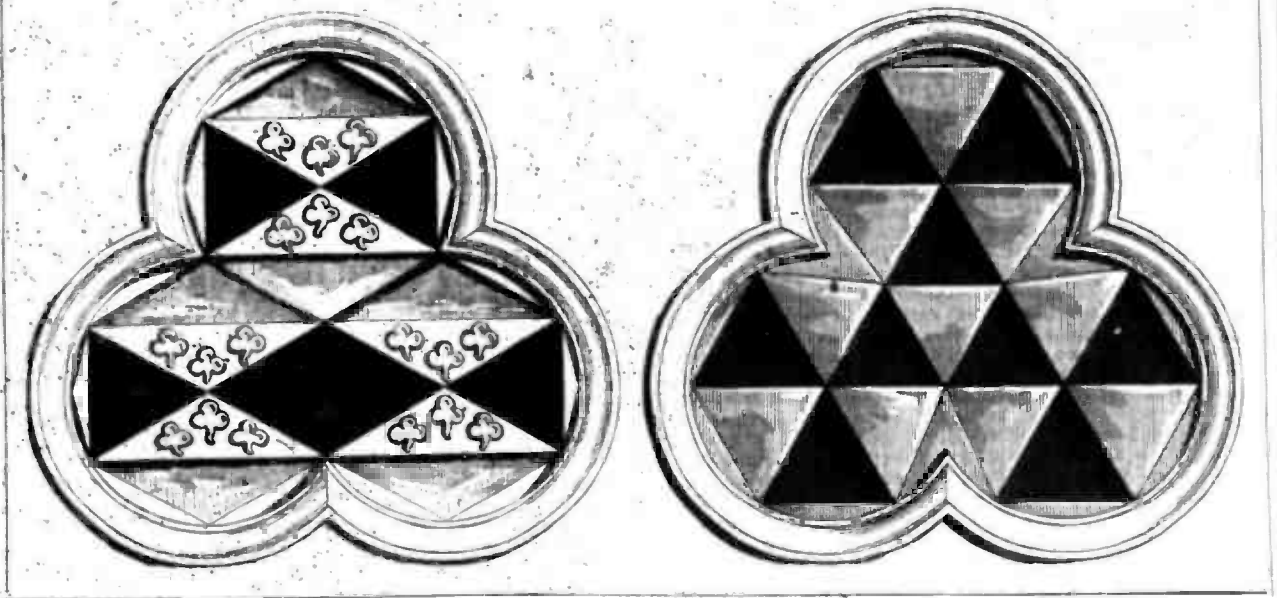


WINDOWS FROM RUSHTON LODGE.

WINDOWS FROM RUSHTON LODGE.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

In the last number of *THE BUILDER* we gave illustrations of the very curious triangular lodge at Rushton, in Northamptonshire, built by Sir Thomas Tresham, and noticed as one of the hiding places where the gun-powder plot was concealed. The annexed engravings represent two of the windows, and are further illustrations of the puzzling reference made to the owner's name; throughout the structure, previously pointed out; the openings themselves are trefoils; the divisions are all triangular, and the three-leaved shamrock, in threes, appears as a decoration. Any correspondent who may be able to lend us an account of the interior of this building, would oblige us by doing so.

FREEMASONS OF THE CHURCH.

Nov. 11.—The Rev. G. Poenck, L.L.B., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The completion of the seal was announced, and the probability of conferring the diplomas by the next meeting.

Mr. Wm. Harry Rogers then read a paper on the subject of "Illuminated Books in their connection with Architecture," illustrated with a series of diagrams, about thirty in number, enlarged from MSS. preserved in various public and private libraries. The first point insisted upon was the fact, that the miniatures of illuminated MSS. of the middle ages, contain a peculiar style of architecture which has never been carried into effect, but that in these examples, the successive changes by which the architectural character of each century is distinguished, are clearly traceable. They are, however, varied, from causes which in many cases are to be ascertained. The Anglo-Saxons, for example, in their edifices always gave the columns, of which they made a most frequent use, a short and stunted form, consistent with their ideas of immense durability, but it was by no means the case in the architectural details which they introduced into the miniatures of their books. In these we find them in almost every case of an extraordinary length; indeed, an enlarged drawing from a MS. of the tenth century was produced, in which the shaft of a column, formed of two parallel lines, was found to be eighteen diameters. From the

celebrated "Durham book" the capital of a column was enlarged; in this example, as in others from the same and similar volumes, the dog was a very prominent characteristic, a circumstance which was endeavoured to be accounted for by the fact, that this animal was venerated by the Ancient Phœnicians, "and we may," remarked Mr. Rogers, "by no tortured hypothesis assume, that what was originally represented from motives of devotion, habit contrived to perpetuate." The dog was afterwards the customary grotesque in Anglo-Saxon, and eventually in Lombardic manuscripts. From a remarkably early volume of the Greek Gospels, the chair of St. Matthew and a tower at the back of St. Luke were given, and interesting specimens they were of architecture of a period with regard to which so little is generally known. In MS. architecture of the beginning of the twelfth century, the columns are represented very short, much enriched, and having bases generally of a disproportionate size, but towards the end of this century we again find that yearning after attenuated forms and long columns, which formed so remarkable a feature in the architecture of the early English style, which was soon so totally to supersede it. An example of this, from Mr. Holford's collection, was referred to as described by Noel Humphreys, and a curious diagram from a MS. in the British Museum, exhibited a column of considerable length, and a lectern, in the formation of which lightness seemed to have been procured at the sacrifice of strength. A lectern of the early English period was enlarged from "the Chronicles of Johan de Walingford," in the Arundel Library, and the next volume glanced at was a superb book executed in England in about the reign of Edward I., and kindly contributed by Mr. Sedgwick, from the College of Physicians. The example enlarged from this MS. was an illustration of the 79th psalm, in which men, with various instruments, were represented in the act of demolishing a temple. Some examples were next given of MS. architecture of the "Decorated" period, and to elicit the style of the fifteenth century, drawings were prepared from "The Life of Richard, Earl of Warwick," in the British Museum. Mr. Rogers next referred to the discovery of the baths of Adrian in Rome, as an important crisis in the history of book illustration. The Italian style was exemplified by some beautiful MSS. contributed by Mr. Jarman. The last specimen given was from an edition of Eusebius, of the sixteenth century, beautifully illuminated and preserved in the Harleian Library.

The next lecture was announced for December 9, "On Architectural Acoustics," by Mr. Richard Cull.

BURFORD CHURCH, SALOP, DIOCESE OF
HEREFORD.

This church contains a nave, chancel, and tower at the west end; the chancel has been recently restored by the present rector, the Rev. J. W. Joyce, the ceiling taken down, and roof thrown open. The stained-glass window which was put in a few years ago, in what was called the modern style, viz. with a circular head, has been taken out; in doing which the arch of the original window was brought to light; the tracery had been taken out. This is now restored. In taking down the old parsonage-house, the tracery of the window was found in part of the foundation. The altar steps are relaid, and encaustic tiles, with proper devices, laid to the floor, the sedilia and piscina restored, and a new arch formed between chancel to nave. In this chancel are buried some noble and ancient families, the barons of Burford, owners of the manors, and, amongst others, the daughter of John of Gaunt. The tomb stands in a gothic arched recess in the north wall, on which reclines a sculptured stone figure of the above lady, supported by angels at the head, and a dog at the foot; over the figure is the following inscription:—

"Here lieth the body of the most noble, Elizabeth, daughter of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, own sister to King Henry the fourth, wife of John Holland, Earl of Huntingdon and Duke of Exeter, after married to Sir John Cornwall, Knight of the Garter and Lord Fanhope. She died the fourth year of Henry the sixth, Anno Domini MCCCCXVI."

A new organ has recently been given to the church by the Hon. Misses Rushout, whose brother, Captain Rushout, nephew of Lord Northwick, is patron of the living. The same ladies have presented a new carpet and altar cloth, with appropriate figures, worked with their own hands. In the churchyard stands the remains of the stone cross, upon three steps: the top and arms are broken off. Adjoining the churchyard stand three parsonage-houses, which were formerly occupied by the incumbents of the different portions of the parish. Only one of the houses now remains, and this has recently been rebuilt.

NEW THEATRE AT LISBON.—The new theatre of "Donna Maria Segunda" which was commenced in the spring of 1843, was opened to the public on the 29th ult. It is of the Ionic order, and adorned with a portico of six columns crowned by a pediment. Its extent may be inferred from the fact that its front contains two rows of seventeen windows each. The architect is Senor Lodi, brother-in-law of the Count de Farrobo. Its cost is said to be 50,000*l*.

* See page 528, ante.